

Response to Non-Final Office Action
Inventor(s): N. Takamori, *et al.*
U.S.S.N. 10/002,949
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REMARKS

Claims 10-22 are pending in the application. Claim 18 is amended herein. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification and claims as filed. No new matter has been added.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 111(a)(2)(B) and (C) and MPEP 714.03(a), the amendments submitted herein clarify the claim language of claim 18 as discussed with the Examiner and, Applicants submit, together with the remarks, place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully contend that this amendment may be properly entered and considered.

Interview Summary

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephonic interview (the "Interview") with the undersigned conducted on December 28, 2005. During the Interview, the rejections of record were discussed, and proposed amendments to the claims were also discussed. No final agreement was reached.

The Office Action

In addition to the remarks submitted with Applicants' Response dated November 22, 2005, Applicants submit the following remarks.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner has suggested that "direct comparison with the prior art" could obviate the rejections of record. Applicants note that certain resins disclosed in the cited references are apparently no longer produced. Applicants provide the following data and remarks:

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Claims 10-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Tachibana (U.S. Patent 5,102,709), and claims 10-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly obvious in view of Tachibana.

The resin composition disclosed in Example 3 of Tachibana (KAYARAD DPCA-30 (70%), KAYARAD R-604 (25%), IRG-184, 5%) has a linear expansion coefficient of 9.0×10^{-5} ($1/^\circ\text{C}$). As the Examiner will appreciate, this linear expansion coefficient is not within the range of values of the linear expansion coefficient recited by the pending claims (greater than 9.5×10^{-5} ($1/^\circ\text{C}$) and smaller than 5.0×10^{-4} ($1/^\circ\text{C}$)). Thus, this composition does not in fact possess the properties of the claimed invention, and cannot anticipate the pending claims. Applicants submit that there is no teaching or suggestion in Tachibana that this resin or any other materials disclosed therein necessarily possess all the properties recited in the pending claims. Accordingly, the rejection of the pending claims is improper and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 10-22 is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing discussion.

Conclusion

This case is believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. Applicant respectfully requests early consideration and allowance of the subject application.

Although no extension of time is believed to be required, Applicants conditionally petition for any extension of time needed. If for any reason a fee is required, a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1105.

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Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the amendments and/or remarks made herein,
the undersigned would appreciate the opportunity to do so.

Respectfully submitted,



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